

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN, APER

SUBJ: REPLACEMENT FOR SCIENCE OFFICER, MEXICO CITY

PASS INFO COPY ARA EXEC. DIR. ACKERMAN

1. A DOCTOR ANDRE SIMONPIETRI'S DEPARTURE DATE APPROACHES

I AM MOST ANXIOUS TO LEARN WHO HAS BEEN SELECTED TO

REPLACE HIM AND TO KNOW JUST WHEN THE NEW OFFICER CAN BE

EXPECTED IN MEXICO CITY. DR. SIMONPIETRI HOPES TO COMPLETE

HIS DEPARTURE REPARATIONS EARLY IN APRIL AND LEAVE THE

POST ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH TO SET THE STAGE FOR

RETIREMENT ON APRIL 30. THUS TIME IS INDEED SHORT.

RECOGNIZING THAT OUR SCIENTIFIC ENDEAVORS HERE ARE BOTH

BROAD AND COMPLEX I WOULD PREFER THAT THE NEW OFFICER

ARRIVE EARLY IN APRIL SO THAT DR. SIMONPIETRI MIGHT

ORIENT HIM ABOUT OUR OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMS AS WELL AS

INTRODUCE HIM TO THOSE CONTACTS WHO PLAY SO IMPORTANT

A ROLE IN THIS SPECIALIZED FIELD. IF AN OVERLAP CANNOT

BE ARRANGED I TRUST THAT THE POSITION WILL NOT BE LEFT

VACANT FOR VERY LONG. EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THE

PACE OF SCIENTIFIC MATTERS IN MEXICO RUNS HIGH AND THAT

THESE TECHNICAL MATTERS ARE BEST HANDLED BY SOMEONE WHO

IS TRULY EXPERT IN THE VARIOUS SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES.

2. WHILE IN WASHINGTON EARLY IN JANUARY I INTERVIEWED

A PROPOSED CANDIDATE, DOCTOR DICK. I WAS IMPRESSED BY

THE FRESHNESS AND SCOPE OF HIS SCIENTIFIC KNOW-HOW,

BY HIS ADMINISTRATIVE CREDENTIALS AND BY HIS DESIRE TO

PARTICIPATE IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO HARNESS INTERNA-

TIONAL SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE TO FURTHER THE US. NATIONAL INTEREST.

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CLEARLY DOCTOR DICK WOULD SERVE OUR PURPOSES WELL. IF HE IS

NOT AVAILABLE AN OFFICER OF SIMILAR QUALIFICATIONS WILL
BE NEEDED. IN ANY EVENT I WILL BE GRATEFUL IF THE
SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS COULD BE EXPEDITED
AND WOULD WELCOME AT AN EARLY DATE SOME INDICATION AS
TO WHERE MATTERS NOW STAND.

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